

00862.023142

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | |
| | : | Examiner: Unassigned |
| KOUICHI SUGIYAMA, ET AL. |) | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: 2852 |
| Application No.: 10/626,531 |) | |
| | : | Confirmation No.: 1149 |
| Filed: July 25, 2003 |) | |
| | : | |
| For: INFORMATION PROCESSING |) | September 22, 2006 |
| APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND | : | |
| PRINT CONTROL PROGRAM |) | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed Japanese documents are also enclosed.

The concise explanations of relevance for the non-English documents are provided by their accompanying English-language abstracts.

For the Examiner's information, U.S. Patent No. 6,236,815 corresponds to Japanese Document No. 11-243846.

Applicants certify under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in the subject information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Specifically, these documents were first cited in a Japanese Office Action dated July 18, 2006, in a corresponding Japanese patent application. A copy of the Office Action that issued on that related application is enclosed.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Scott D. Malpede/

Scott D. Malpede
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 32,533

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
SDM/vmm

DC_MAIN 254346v1

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| FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Submitted to the PTO: September 22, 2006 | | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.023142 | | APPLICATION NO. 10/626,531 | |
| | | | | APPLICANTS KOUCHI SUGIYAMA, ET AL. | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE July 25, 2003 | | GROUP 2852 | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | | 6,236,815 | 05/2001 | Kaneko, et al. | 399 | 45 | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT |
| | | 11-243486 | 09/1999 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | | 05-022570 | 01/1993 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | | 06-278315 | 10/1994 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | | 2002-036631 | 02/2002 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | | 05-012388 | 01/1993 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.